

Item 3
Bill 50(2011), CD1

From: Higa, Creighton**Sent:** Thursday, February 09, 2012 1:37 PM**Subject:** RE: Zoning and Planning Committee Testimony**TO:** Committee on Zoning and Planning**ATTN:** Chair, Ikaika Anderson

Vice Chair, Romy Cachola

Tulsi Gabbard

Breene Harimoto

Ann Kobayashi

FROM: Kimo Kelii

Nanakuli-Mailii Neighborhood Board #36

SUBJECT: Bill 50 (2011), CD1 - *Oppose Amending the Waianae Sustainable Communities Plan

In my current role and involvement at the State Capitol with lobbying and pursuing a variety of legislative bills, initiatives and policies regarding the State of Hawaii Department of Education's DOE Federal Grant Award "Race To The Top", it was stated and reported by a couple of DOE officials during a recent Joint Education Committee hearing that a major paradigm shift was being promoted and emphasized with "Transforming Hawaii's Public Schools"; whereby, in preparing and ensuring that all of Hawaii's keiki receive equal opportunities for success in college; career acquisition; or a better quality of life experience, the DOE was highly recommending that low-achieving and poor performing schools that were located within the "Zone of Innovation" (which the Nanakuli complex area schools were designated as being by the DOE-RTTT leadership team) to include other factors such as being located in a rural, low-income or high poverty area (which again all the Nanakuli and Mailii public schools are in), the educational shift in pattern and tradition regarding how our children will learn, acquire and retain important and valuable knowledge and skills to be at least competitive in the local, State, National and Global markets in the 21st Century, these failing public schools' administrators and leadership team members within the Zone of Innovation will need to develop, network, partnership and incorporate various educational programs and curriculums that encompass and engage computer equipment & technology programs; economic development projects; or financial management portfolio's which will in return expose the students to the type of real life and relevant learning environment and working climate beyond just the traditional school curriculums geared toward memorization of facts

MISC. COM. 204

2/9/2012

ZP

 RECEIVED
 FEB 9 1 45 PM '12
 CITY CLERK
 HONOLULU, HAWAII

and figures; or completing daily text book assignments and projects; all culminating in either a quiz or test aimed at measuring a student's ability to remember or retain data for a few hours or days.

I believe that we all know that our Nanakuli community's economic future and a balanced and fair quality of life experience for our residents depend solely on the education of our children and keiki; especially in today's rapidly changing global economy whereby technology has accelerated at a rate at which information and knowledge either changes or increases tremendously!

Page 2: Bill 50

The DOE's directives to our Elected Officials and State Lawmakers regarding our struggling schools in terms of meeting or exceeding the academic standards were somewhat clear in that the charge and challenge for our community leaders and public school administrators was that an "Economic Industry or Business Venture" that could be proposed, developed and constructed to create the foundation, environment and climate that would encourage, produce, expose and stimulate students toward accomplishing the following goals and expectations: academic achievement; character building; career enhancement; civic responsibility and consumer accountability.

Consequently, based on the following charts progression of economic forces that impacted and affected the workers or job seekers viability and marketability in the past, formulated many of the public schools educational agenda and direction for student knowledge and skills attainment necessary to gain employment opportunities looked somewhat like this:

1. In the 1950 thru 1970's - The Industrial Age: job productivity was achieved by working harder; longer and it involved more people to complete a task. Minimal public school education required. High school diploma preferred.
2. In the 1980 thru 2000's - The Information Age: job productivity was achieved by "working smarter and thinking better" -- which made acquiring a college degree or higher education certification greatly improved the chances of career advancement and salary increases. High school diploma required. College degree or trade school certification preferred. Higher education pursuits encouraged and considered.
3. in the 2010 thru 2030's - The Technology Age: job productivity will be achieved by using multiple sensory abilities; employing multi-tasking or multi-level marketing techniques; exhibit leadership dynamics and assertive discipline strategies; proficient in the use of computer technology and or equipments to include operating various high tech devices and products; manage personal, business or corporate financial & fiscal accounts and or records; the ability to articulate and communicate verbally and in writing. Public high school diploma required. College degree in only certain fields preferred. Higher degrees or professional licenses to include national board or state certifications mandatory. Additional credentials or training highly considered.

To be competitive in the Global & World Market, our students must be exposed to

numerous variables with processing data in effective ways; creating working environments that forces them to recognize work relationships and connections among seemingly disparate items and events; and finally, we must prepare and require our students to obtain a consistent level of cognitive thinking and skills beyond what the public schools in Hawaii have been traditionally teaching and providing them with.

Page 3: Bill 50

Current statistics and demographics for our Nanakuli/Waianae students reveal that because our children live in such an ever-changing environment, economic forces require that our schools prepare students with the ability to recognize differences and to be able to analyze a situation or predicament in hopes of making the right choices, decisions or discriminations. Bottom line, the basic goal and purpose of education for our Native Hawaiian children in our communities are to produce capable students who can understand the complexities of the learning task and concept; whereas, in today's society, the best and most productive learning situations for our children are really happening and taking place outside of the classroom walls and not on the school's campuses.

The Tropic LLC project is the network entity and partnership group that the DOE recommended with our community having because of the public schools that are low-performing and achieving within the DOE's "Zone of Innovation" location. The Developer has committed to providing the space and lease for companies or businesses that would like to conduct and operate opportunities such as those jobs or employers which fall in the category of those skills or experiences aligned with the NHIS CTE program's activities and projects:

Career & Technology Pathway: I=1 Permitted Items:

- | | | |
|----------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Agriculture | *Agriculture Equipment, Machinery & *Agribusiness Incubator *Agriculture Storage & Feed Facility *Plant Nurseries *Food Manufacturing & Processing Co. *Manufacturing Packaging Co. *Warehousing *Wholesaling and Distribution *Business Services *Schools, Vocational, Trade Center | Supplies Service Center |
|----------------|---|-------------------------|

2. Digital Media *Digital Media Center & Incubator

*Business Services

*Data Processing Facilities

*Motion Picture & Television

*Broadcasting Stations

3. Graphics *Data Processing Facilities

*Photographic Processing

*Publishing Plants for Print media

*Business Services

Page 4: Bill 50

4. Building & Construction *Business Services

*Home Improvement Centers

*Self-Storage Facilities

*Building & Construction Facilities

*Furnishing Services

*Building & Construction Tools, Supplies & Equipment

Services / Businesses

*Warehousing

*Wholesaling and distribution

*Vocational, Industrial & Trade Schools

5. Electronics *Business Services

*Laboratories, research

*Repair establishments, minor

*Warehousing

- *Wholesaling & Distribution

- *Schools, Vocational, Technical, Trade

- *Broadcasting Stations

- *Auto Parts and Installations

6. Culinary Arts *Catering Establishments

- *Eating Establishments

- *Food Manufacturing and Processing

- *Schools, Vocational, Trade Center

- *Business Services

7. Health Occupations *Business Services

- *Data Processing Facilities

- *Laboratories, medical

- *Laboratories, research

- *Veterinary Establishments

- *Warehousing

- *Wholesaling and Distribution

- *Day Care Facilities

This is the reason why this Business & Commercial Center title was approved as being the new name of this Purple Spot development project – which in my opinion is truly a Community-Driven and Data-Based type of endeavor and proposal in that this project title change was the recommendation of the community to include the fact that the tenant composition and development appearance is to change too. This entire negotiated and recently adjusted Tropic LLC project plan was to purposely accommodate the wishes and desires of the community and its residents as to how we wanted to envision and embrace the proposed Nanakuli Business and Commercial Center.

Page 5: Bill 50

It is because of these new pattern and shift in learning that as the Education Committee

Chairman of the Nanakuli-Maili Neighborhood Board #36, I will be opposing the amendment change of the purple spot in that this removal request will significantly delay or perhaps single-handedly eliminate the only viable option in which our community would have had in terms of improving and solving the education crisis and issues in this State.

I am currently in communication with our NHIS Principal, administration, faculty and staff along with the students, parents, community and education stakeholders as to the importance and significance of this WCSP approval process and disposition. My hopes is that all the people interested in the future of our children need to participate in this process of democracy and freedom.

Make no mistakes, anything I can do to help remove all these negative labels listed about our children and their performance and achievement levels are so depressing and shameful that I believe this project will encourage hope and change for their future at the very least. This entire Purple Spot venture is an extremely viable and tangible project in that I have been emphasizing the fact that the Principal of Nanakuli High & Intermediate School has shared with me about the students who are not following through with their Career & Technology Education programs located at Honolulu Community College; Kapiolani Community College as well as Leeward Community College - Pearl City Campus for many valid reasons: Bus transportation and travel too far; funding for a bus pass is too expensive for parents; students have other responsibilities at home that require them to be home after school, etc.

In 2011, the Tropic LLC Consultant team met with Piliialoha (NHIS Principal) and gave a presentation at NHIS with the teachers, faculty and staff segment in hopes of gaining their support of this Purple Spot becoming a part of the community's endeavor and composition primarily because this "Business & Commercial Center" was going to be zoned for the following types of facilities, companies and entities that were definitely within the "Career Strands and Pathways" occupations. This entire project location and tenants would provide the 21st Century type of working climate and environments that would exposure the students to numerous variables and processing of data in effective ways; cognitive thinking skills, relationships and connections among disparate items and events; use of multiple sensory experiences; use and access to a host of work-related equipments and supplies; and so on.

In closing, please support the Purple Spot on the WCSP and oppose the amendment to the Bill 50 proposal.

FACTS & FIGURES:

It is not about the developers \$1-Million Dollars benefits or giveback package committed to the community for nonprofits or educational needs;

It is not about the commitment by the developer to provide several agricultural facilities and agribusiness opportunities for the local farmers and agriculture industries in this community;

It is not about the discounted rent prices that the developer committed to provide for our Native Hawaiian owned or operated businesses and companies located in the Nanakuli;

It is not about the Hawaiian cultural concessions made to acknowledge and honor the supposedly Hawaiian stories or mo'olelo surrounding the development area;

It is not about the unilateral agreement the developer signed with the NMNB #36, prohibiting certain establishments from being constructed or proposed for this project;

It is not about the fact that Lucy Gay told my Aunty Leihulu that when it comes to waging a battle against any developer in our community, she always wins and never loses. How convenient for her to make our community collateral damage in her pursuit of needing to win against an environmental and economical community-driven project at the expense of eliminating our children's education, future and sustainable livelihood;

It is not about the lies and misinformation about the 500 trucks coming into our community to this development when the developer has not signed or committed to a single lease with any trucking company; as a matter of fact, the developer has modified his development plans per the request of the community residents and leaders from having a "Base yard" type development to now having a "Business & Commercial Center" type of project;

It is not about the inconsistency of the State's Land Use Commission decision denying this project's request to rezone the property for the benefit of majority of the community, but yet this same LUC can allow these multi-million dollar toxic and hazardous waste type of facilities that benefit only a few directly to operate and conduct business in this community? (who are facilities that have received violations of some sort from the DOH inspectors);

It is not about the Lualualei Road in which the State's LUC used as the bone of contention whereby requiring the developer to obtain a long-term lease from the Navy to include mandatory road improvement construction projects to be paid and constructed by the developer? Give me a break, why was this same mandate not applied to the PVT Landfill or West Oahu Aggregate Company to complete;

It is not about Ma'o Farms assertion that this particular 90 somewhat acre parcel would be the start of desecrating our agricultural lands on the Waianae Coast when in actuality, there are over 500 acres of farm and agriculture lands that are not being utilized for agriculture.

It is all about the future of our children's education and quality of life that I care about!

From: Higa, Creighton
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 9:13 AM
To:
Cc:
Subject: Zoning and Planning Committee Testimony

Testimony from Kimo Kelii, Wai'anae resident.